

PM HBCT COMMON DISPLAY MARKET SURVEY

1. Market Survey Request. The Program Executive Office-Ground Combat Systems (PEO GCS), Program Management Office Heavy Brigade Combat Team (PM-HBCT) is conducting a Market Survey to determine the current availability of a common display for integration onto Abrams, Bradley and Paladin families of vehicles. Platforms targeted for the common displays could eventually include additional legacy, in-production, and future ground tactical vehicles. Any information received, in whole or in part, may be used to create the resulting acquisition strategy for the proposed requirements. The contracting strategy anticipates that a joint Government/Contractor team will analyze alternatives to develop actual specifications, Statement of Work, and other technical documentation baseline. Each vehicle application may have differing versions of Government/Contractor furnished equipment; dependent upon the varying levels of maturity of components. All requirements are not known at this time and may vary considerably.

2. Description of Intent. This market survey seeks to determine industry capability to provide common displays. The Government is primarily focused on seeking suitable commercial and non-developmental items or commercial items that can be easily modified to meet existing Government requirements. Modified Commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) items built in accordance with Government performance specifications. If no such commercial/non-developmental items currently exist, the Government may entertain the procurement of developmental items based on the information received as a result of this market research. The Federal Acquisition Regulation defines a non-developmental item as follows:

a. Any previously developed item of supply used exclusively for governmental purposes by a Federal agency, a State or local government, or a foreign government with which the U.S. has a mutual defense cooperation agreement.

b. Any item described in paragraph a., above, that requires only minor modification or modifications of a type customarily available in the commercial marketplace in order to meet the requirements of the procuring department or agency or

c. Any item of supply being produced that does not meet the requirement of paragraphs a or b, above, solely because the item is not yet in use.

If interested, furnish your detailed response to the Common Display Market Survey Questionnaire. Additionally, you may provide any supplemental information or commercial literature describing the human factors, engineering, safety, supportability, quality, cost, product availability or other information not specifically requested that you feel would be informative. The Government does **NOT** wish to obtain any proprietary or otherwise protected documents as a result of this market survey. The Government may return such data or documents submitted that have proprietary or protected markings. This market research process is intended to obtain only currently available information about contractor's products. NOTE: The Government is not asking you to develop or provide drawings or develop any technical data in response to this market survey.

3. Disclaimer. This announcement will be used as a sources sought/market research tool. The submission of information in response to this market survey is for planning purposes only, and is not to be construed as a commitment by the U.S. Government to procure any items/services described herein, nor for the Government to pay for the information received. The purpose of this notice is to identify and establish initial interest and points of contact from private industry. This information may be used to design an acquisition strategy to include socioeconomic program support. It may also help to identify and establish commercial practices available to the Government.

Participation in this market survey is strictly voluntary and the U.S. Government will not reimburse contractors for any costs incurred for their participation in this survey. All information is to be submitted at no cost or obligation to the Government.

This is NOT a pre-solicitation notice pursuant to FAR Part 5. Individual correspondence should not be expected in advance of any resulting pre-solicitation notice for the proposed requirements. This notice does not constitute an Invitation for Bid or Request for Proposal and is not to be construed as a commitment by the Government to issue an order. This request for information is not a solicitation, and no award shall be made on the basis of this notice. There is no formal solicitation available at this time, no solicitation will be issued against this notice, and this request for information does not obligate the Government to issue a solicitation. Contingent on funding becoming available, if a formal solicitation is generated at a later date, a solicitation notice will be published. The U.S. Government will in no way be bound to this information if any solicitation is issued.

This information provided herein is subject to change and in no way binds the Government to solicit for or award a competitive contract. Unless otherwise stated herein, no additional written information is available, and no formal Request for Proposal (RFP) or other solicitation regarding this announcement is available; Requests for the same will be disregarded. If a solicitation is released, it will be synopsisized at the FEDBIZOPPS home page and or TACOM-Warren Procurement Network (PRONET). It is the potential offeror's responsibility to monitor these sites for release of any solicitation or synopsis. Again, we prefer that your response does not include any proprietary data or business sensitive information as any information received may be used by the Government and/or released to the public.

4. Export Controls. The following guidance is provided for non-US citizens and non-US companies or US citizens representing non-US companies. Because the draft specification is subject to Export Control Laws, all respondents to this request for information are required to register with the United States/Canada Joint Certification Office through the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS), and provide a copy of their executed DD Form 2345 to the contracting office before a copy of the draft specification is mailed. If you have previously supplied a copy of your approved DD Form 2345, it is not required for you to resubmit. It is mandatory to register with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Database. The CCR provides the DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System + 4 number) number and a company's CAGE (Commercial and Government Entity) code that will be required to conduct business with the Department of Defense. Copies of DD Form 2345 and request for copies of the draft specification shall be forwarded to Mr. Anthony Scalise, e-mail: anthony.j.scalise@us.army.mil.

Representatives of US companies who have subsidiaries in foreign countries expecting to participate will also be considered under foreign national rules. Note that information to be provided is subject to export controls. Please ensure a certified DD Form 2345 is sent to TACOM Contracting Center with your request for draft specification.

Be advised that non-US companies may not be able to compete for any common display contract award if it is determined access to data that is classified as "NoForn" is required.

5. General Information. Please note PM HBCT intends to provide the questionnaire responses and any detailed information provided by the offeror to the vehicle systems' prime contractors and/or PEO GCS and TARDEC support contractors in order to assist in the Government assessments. See the release statement at the beginning of the questionnaire. The contracting strategy anticipates that a joint Government/contractor team will work to develop the actual specifications/SOW and other technical documentation baseline prior to conducting negotiations for delivery of the common displays and all the associated contractor support required for successful fielding and sustainment.

The Government's explicit intent, in this request for information, is to not receive from respondents any proprietary data, trade secrets, business sensitive information, or information considered CONFIDENTIAL under 18 U.S.C. §1905. The Government's constraint does not in any way relieve contractor's from their responsibility to properly mark proprietary data when it is provided, in accordance with DFARS 252.227-7013. Nor does it alleviate any requirement for the Government to protect marked data.

6. Requirement Background. US Army vehicle programs are facing problems with limitations in size, weight, power, human factors, and safety related to the proliferation of GFE electronics systems being integrated into vehicle platforms. Many electronic systems require their own display/monitor/control panel, taking significant Size, Weight and Power (SWaP) budget and impacting safe and effective operation of the vehicles. The vision for common displays is to create a scalable system that would meet the needs of multiple vehicle platforms to address modernization issues. PM HBCT is interested in pursuing a consolidated, common display technology that can accept and effectively display input in multiple formats/interfaces from vehicle electronics systems (health monitoring systems, sensor systems, situational awareness systems, communication systems, weapons systems, routers, etc.) and where required, allow control of those systems from the common display.

Specifically, the U.S. Army seeks to obtain information relative to current and/or future display panel capabilities that promote commonality across a wide range of applications. Displays will be used in a wide variety of applications and the common display program will create a family of displays that employ open architecture principles to ensure total ownership costs are affordable for all level of requirements. Ideally, the common display would be a modular and scalable system with an open architecture to enable commonality of major sub-components between the end-item displays used in different families of ground tactical vehicles. For example, the same display head assembly module could be mated to two different Input/Output (I/O) modules and installed in two different vehicle platforms performing vastly different functions. The physical, electrical, and functional interfaces between these modules would be open, non-proprietary, based upon commercial standards, and easily implemented by third parties. Any common display design should greatly reduce development cycle time and cost for redeploying an end-item display for a new platform to include final integration. The initial common display family will be built upon the most advanced technologies available with improved

optical performance (luminance ranges, contrast ratio, viewing angles, and night vision compatibility), next-generation processing performance, and high-bandwidth video/data interfaces. Significantly increased MTBF is also a key requirement. The modular nature of the system will ensure simplified technology insertion when new technologies become available. For example, the display head assembly could be replaced with a form, fit, and function assembly based upon advanced concept technology in future years.

Common display technical attributes should include:

1. Modular open system architecture (MOSA)
2. Commercial IT standards
3. Processors connected via ethernet LAN with internet protocols (IP).
4. An open business model that includes Government purpose rights to software, third party development toolkit, and US Army laboratory support which include assisting the Army in setting up the development & testing environment.
5. All LRUs will contain Built-In-Test (BIT)/Built-In-Test Equipment (BITE) electronics.
6. The LRUs shall self-test and test interface equipment during a start-up power application. Results shall have the ability to be used on an equipment status display to assess the operational readiness and identify degraded or failed system conditions.
7. The LRUs shall self-test and test interfaced equipment on a non-interference basis, and will identify degraded or failed system conditions.

The overall goal is to limit the number of displays at each crew member/occupant position. The desired display units should:

1. be configurable to permit viewing and control of any input system;
2. be configurable to allow monitoring multiple systems simultaneously;
3. have displays that are identical and interchangeable between crew positions and vehicle platforms;
4. be based on flat screen technology (LCD, plasma, or similar);
5. allow for connection through multiple types of data connectors, and accept inputs from analog and digital data and video signals;
6. have the ability to display multi-format video input formats, possessing disparate resolution formats (VGA, SVGA, XGA, SXGA, etc.);
7. be based on varying software languages;
8. include an anti-glare or filtering system to allow for viewing in direct sunlight, and brightness control for viewing through Night Vision Goggles;
9. shall be ruggedized and sealed to resist damage or degradation while operating in typical US Army environments (salt fog, salt spray, dirt, mud, etc.);
10. require minimal power to mitigate vehicle power demand; and
11. have a touch screen or other method for users to input data and/or control systems/applications displayed, operable in MOPP IV and Cold Weather Gear.

7. Instructions for Completing the Questionnaire. Interested firms should fill out the questionnaire below. Your responses will assist in finalizing plans for this effort and allow better definition of requirements, thereby providing a more clearly written solicitation to industry. Questions about this survey should be directed to the POC listed below who may post them to the TACOM web site at <http://contracting.tacom.army.mil/ssn/sources.htm> with the answers. Your cooperation in answering these questions is greatly appreciated. All survey documentation must be provided in writing, or published form, and in English.

Potential sources are advised that any information provided may be assessed by non-Government employees to include, but not limited to General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS) and British Aerospace (BAE Systems). No proprietary data or business sensitive information will be released outside the Government until a Non-Disclosure Agreement is executed between the offeror providing the information and the non-Government participants to the assessment process. Offerors should indicate whether such an agreement is already in place or include their proposed NDA sample as part of their submission package.

Offerors should ensure that any material/data that is provided is marked appropriately to ensure proper handling of all information. Unless otherwise noted herein, anything submitted in response to this market survey shall not be returned to the sender. Respondents shall not be notified of the results of the survey or results of information submitted, and telephone or email inquiries shall not be honored.

- a. Number each response with the appropriate question number.
- b. You do not have to repeat the question in your response.
- c. If you cannot answer a question, please indicate "No Response."
- d. If a response will satisfy another question, state: "See response to question XXX."
- e. Include relevant sales media and product manuals. If providing an ACROBAT formatted manual, annotate the manual to indicate which material is applicable to the questions. If preferred, include Internet Web links to locations where animations/videos may be viewed.
- f. If your sales media and/or manuals contain a restricted distribution statement, issue a release statement indicating that the restricted material may be distributed to Army personnel involved with this Market Survey.
- g. Spell out any acronyms in their first instance.
- h. Clearly mark any proprietary information. If applicable, the front page of your response package should state: "Proprietary Information Contained." Provide a release statement indicating that the proprietary information may be distributed to Army personnel involved with this Market Survey.

Deliverables for the survey could include; Technical descriptions of systems that meet the above requirements; Interface Control Documents (ICDs) for the recommended systems (Adobe, Visio format); Electrical and mechanical interfaces; d) Physical, size, weight, volume and power requirements; System and environmental specifications; Schedule of existing or planned production of recommended products; Computer Aided Design (CAD) models or mockup of products (AutoCAD, Pro/E or equivalent format); Identify if there are any available systems for PM HBCT to perform space claim, weight and power analysis; Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) on Unit cost, with quantity discount costs; written documentation to support the ability to meet the requirement, or a detailed description of system modifications that are contemplated to assure requirements can be achieved; and, product growth, improvement, maturation, support, producibility, technology insertions plans.

8. Response Format. Electronic responses are required. Contractor format is acceptable. Please title contractor response as “Market Survey Response for PM HBCT Common Display”.

9. Responses Due. Please submit electronic responses to this survey, comments to the draft specification, as well as industry questions for clarification to:

Mr. Anthony Scalise, Procurement Analyst, via email: anthony.j.scalise@us.army.mil, no later than **13 November 2009**. Alternate POC is Mr. John Kerr, email: john.c.kerr@us.army.mil . **No telephonic responses will be accepted.**

10. Contracting Office Address

Project Manager, Heavy Brigade Combat Team (HBCT)
ATTN: SFAE-GCS-HBCT-C, Mr. Anthony Scalise, MS 506
6501 E. 11 Mile Road
Warren, MI 48397-5000

Again, in accordance with FAR Clause 52.215-3, the Government does not intend to award a contract on the basis of this request for information or to otherwise pay for the information solicited. With the exception of access to the draft specification and Common Display Market Survey Questionnaire, no further information is available from the contracting office. After the information requested is received and evaluated, respondents may be contacted to obtain additional details that will further the Government’s market research.